

ADVICE,
IN THE
CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS:

WHEREIN
THE NATURE AND CAUSES OF THAT DISEASE
ARE INVESTIGATED BY ANATOMICAL
INQUIRIES,

AND
PLAIN AND SUITABLE METHODS FOR ITS PREVENTION
AND CURE CIRCUMSTANTIALLY LAID DOWN.

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A D V I C E,

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HOWEVER great the exertions of Physicians have been, and however successful their endeavours have proved, particularly within this last half century, to bring every part of their profession as near perfection as a science so vast, and in some respects so variable, will perhaps as yet admit of; still, and it need not be concealed, disorders do exist, which have hitherto eluded every effort, which a perfect knowledge of the human body, joined to experience, and the most intense observation have dictated, to overcome them.

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The Pulmonary Consumption, when produced by tumors or tubercles in the Lungs, should be considered as one of these *Opprobria Medicorum*, as they are unjustly called; unlike the others, which very often are the fruits of intemperance, and generally attack persons advanced in years, this dreadful disease preys on unoffending youth, in the very flower of age, and in a short time after it fully manifests itself, inevitably deprives society of some of its greatest ornaments.

It seems to me very probable, nevertheless, that the number of those who are daily carried off by this fatal disorder, might be very considerably diminished, were its nature and causes so well known, as to enable us to employ with a certain degree of certitude, such remedies as are proved by experience to be the most efficacious in counteracting their effects: but such is the obscurity in which the origin of this species of Consumption is involved, that a vast field is left for conjecture; each person therefore is not only at liberty to ascribe it to whatever cause he pleases, and consequently to adopt the practice, however improper, which appears to him the most conformable to his speculation;

speculation ; but also no fixed, no efficacious method can be determined upon, to preserve from its attack, or palliate its symptoms.

Among the many benefits which Anatomy has conferred on the science of Physic, that of enabling us to investigate, by the dissection of bodies, the seat and causes of diseases, is perhaps the most valuable : this excellent method, however, has not in the least contributed to develop the nature of a Consumption ; deterred by the common opinion that this disease is contagious, our most famous anatomists, even the learned Morgagni (*a*) who, from his profound works, should be supposed divested of such a prejudice, have not ventured to examine the bodies of those who died of this disorder ; thus their unfounded fears have deprived us of that information which their great abilities rendered them so capable of giving, on this interesting subject.

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due attention on the circumstance, that no fair instance can be alleged of any one of those persons, who not only frequently approach, but are even very often in close contact with patients in every stage of a Consumption, being attacked with this disease, will by this proof alone, be strongly induced to think that the notion of its being contagious is totally destitute of foundation.

Not contagious.

Convinced as I am for many years past, that the fear of receiving any injury from bodies affected with this disorder, is entirely groundless; I have never refused to assist at the opening of such of them as I deemed the most likely to afford any useful discovery; and the more I advanced in my searches, which never proved in the least offensive to myself or the assistants, the more it appeared evident that this disease, so far from being capable of communicating itself in this manner, can originate only in a hereditary taint, implanted in the lungs of the foetus, which when actuated to a certain degree, by the occasional causes, hereafter to be mentioned, is productive of the most fatal effects.

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The probability that the immediate cause of this species of Consumption is of this nature, is considerably strengthened by our finding this complaint of the Lungs constantly attended with a vicious conformation of the breast and adjoining parts; a coincidence which, as it cannot be attributed to chance, must be accounted for by admitting an innate distemper, by which nature, in the formation of the infant, is prevented from bestowing on these parts of the body, the usual firmness and perfection.

It is by no means my intention to enter into long discussions, in order to establish any system of my own on this subject; nor do I intend to introduce into this small treatise that of any other person, however ingenious and specious it may appear: instead therefore of dwelling any further on speculative reasoning, I shall here offer a few of those anatomical observations which I had collected with a design of laying some foundation, for understanding the nature of this disease; if they afford inferences which may enable us to establish the real causes of a Consumption on a firm basis, they must greatly contribute to the preservation and
relief

relief of our patients, by leading to that uniformity of practice, of which they now stand so much in need.

ANATOMICAL INQUIRIES INTO THE NATURE AND CAUSES OF CON- SUMPTION.

JANETON DESFORGES the wife of a master carpenter who lived in the Guillotière, one of the suburbs of Lyons, came into the hospital of that city on the 25th of February, 1788, in order to be relieved of a Cough, with which, she said, she had been afflicted for many years before her marriage; but although its attacks were then often as violent as now, still she had not paid so much attention to it, as the fits were never attended with the violent pains which lately distressed her, particularly in the muscles of the belly and the upper interior part of the thighs; nor did it deprive her of her sleep, or reduce her to such a state of weakness and emaciation as she now experienced.

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Her mind, she added, was very much disturbed, from the apprehension of losing the child, of which she was eight months pregnant, as since the sixth month, its motion was become so languid and so unfrequent, that she but very seldom perceived it.

When a girl, she was much subject to a bleeding from the nose, and thought that the matter she expectorated was sometimes tinged with blood, particularly when the cough was violent; but since her marriage, which took place twelve months before, she did not recollect that she had spit any such: her menstrual discharge had been pretty regular with respect to time, but the quantity was always very small.

This young woman was twenty-two years of age, above the middle size, skin and hair remarkably fair, considering the climate, and her teeth even and uncommonly white; her breast, though narrow, did not appear, on a cursory view, to bear any remarkable disproportion to the rest of her body; her neck was very long and slender, and the scapulæ or posterior shoulder bones much elevated.

The patient had not remained many days in the hospital before the state of her health was very much improved; a table spoonful of the following linctus, given three times a day, at the distance of four hours one from the

the other, with plenty of warm drink, soon rendered the cough very moderate.

Take,

Oil of Almonds, four ounces,

Syrup of white Poppies, one ounce and a half.

Simple Cinnamon water, three ounces.

Shake the bottle when to be used.

A light nourishing diet, principally composed of milk, eggs, rice and the like, restored her strength; and the violent pains of the thighs and belly, were greatly relieved by keeping in bed the greatest part of the time, whereby the painful extension of the ligaments and tubes of the womb, and its pressure on the adjoining parts were prevented.

These pains, however, were succeeded by one so exquisite that the Patient assured me, that were it to return often, or continue long, she would prefer death to the endurance of it; she compared the sensation it produced on her, to that which she imagined would be caused by a red hot wire suddenly pushed into her breast; sometimes on the right side, at others on the left, between the sixth and seventh rib, and darted through the substance of the Lungs, towards the opposite inferior angle

angle of the Scapula; this pain she complained of more or less during her illness, nor was she entirely free from slight attacks of it, even after she was delivered.

It was now above three weeks since this woman was admitted into the hospital, and her health appeared so well restored that she would have been discharged, had she not declared, that she was resolved to lie in there, as she was persuaded, that in every respect, she should be much better, than she could expect to be at home.

She was therefore sent to the *Chambres Violettes*, a spacious and commodious ward, provided with a hundred beds, and every other article necessary for the reception of pregnant married women, whose circumstances rendered their lying in at their own places of abode very uncomfortable and often unsafe, for want of proper attendance. In this ward the patient was safely delivered of a male child on the twenty-eighth Day of March, and according to the account which I received from the worthy lay-nun who performed that function, the operation was not attended with any uncommon accident whatsoever,

nor did the Lochiæ afterwards deviate in the least, either in their duration or quantity, from what ought to be expected from a woman of her delicate habit, who notwithstanding the most earnest endeavours to dissuade her from it, resolutely insisted on being allowed to suckle her infant.

From the day of her delivery, until the twenty-first of the following month, this poor woman thought that she was entirely rid of all her complaints; whenever I enquired into the state of her health, she always answered, with a remarkable satisfaction and liveliness, that she was very well, had a good appetite, and slept soundly; she walked every day in the extensive garden which belonged to her ward, and her child seemed to thrive pretty well, although on examination it did not appear that her milk, which was the only nourishment she could be prevailed on to give him, was sufficient for that purpose.

On the eve of that day on which it was remarked she was more brisk, and took more exercise than usual, she was suddenly seized with a violent fit of coughing, and expectorated

torated about a tea spoon-full of a yellow matter streaked with blood; the piercing pain which since her delivery troubled her but very seldom, and even then very slightly, now returned on the left side, and tormented her so much, that in hopes of obtaining some rest, she went to bed; about midnight the watching sisters (*sœurs veilleuses*) were alarmed by a loud shriek from the quarter where she lay, and ran immediately to her assistance; but they found her turned on her face, dead, with the infant almost suffocated under her arm, and the bed besmeared with a considerable quantity of matter resembling that which she had expectorated in the evening.

Informed next day of this accident, I ordered the body to be carried to our amphitheatre or dissecting apartment, in order (according to my constant custom in cases of sudden death, or where its cause was obscure) that the opening of it, may afford the young Physicians and Surgeons who attended the visits, such instructions as inquiries of this nature never fail to convey. As the seat of the disorder, in this case, was not in the least dubious, the operation was
 confined

confined to the trachea arteria and the breast, which we found in the state which I shall now describe, in as concise a manner as the subject will possibly admit of.

Having stript the fore part of the breast of the integuments and muscles which cover it, we cut out the sternum with very little trouble, as the cartilages which articulated it with the ribs, were so soft as to oppose almost as little resistance to the instrument as flesh; then forcing back the ribs, the Lungs were intirely exposed to our view.

As the cavity of the breast was extremely small, considering the size of the body, so were also the Lungs: and we observed the left Lung to be puffed up, a little above the middle of its two lobes, which rendered its natural comparative smallness with the right Lung very remarkable.

On pressing and feeling these unnatural elevations, we perceived a resistance on their edges which increased towards the centre, where we thought we could distinctly feel fluctuation; throughout the substance of this Lung, and in many parts of the right one,

one, tumours were felt, which when pressed between the fingers offered to the touch a certain degree of hardness; and when pushed in every direction from the places which they occupied, they were easily removed, but returned to the same spot as soon as the pressure was taken off. Both Lungs examined attentively on all sides, appeared outwardly in every other respect in their natural state, except that their colour, we thought, was more grey than is usually observed in persons of this woman's age.

We next, without removing the Lungs from their situation, proceeded to examine the interior of that organ; and lest the nature of these tumours should be altered and become thereby more obscure, no incision was permitted to be made on them. The opening was begun by flitting the Larynx, and cutting in the middle the cartilaginous fragments which are ranged in the anterior side of the trachea arteria, down as far as the curvature of the aorta: then conducting the instrument in the same manner along the bronchiæ on both sides, their left ramifications led us into the elevations which we had remarked on that Lung, the right ones
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to the tumours which were felt in the lobes which compose the right. Each of the elevations, as also the tumours, now evidently appeared to be formed more or less, according to their bulk, of the cellular bundles which are produced by the bronchial tubes through the entire substance of the Lungs.

Having, by the anatomical dexterity of our Surgeon Major, M. Rey, (who with the greatest skill and caution dissected each bronchial ramification that terminated in a tumour of any note) ascertained the seat of the disease, and made it evident to the assistants that its primary cause was placed in the extremities of the air vessels; it was thought fit to examine the state of the parts which were already opened, before we proceeded to enquire more closely into the nature of the tumours; what follows is the result of our observation on those parts.

The Larynx was stuffed with a thick purulent matter mixed with a small quantity of blood, such as had been expectorated by the woman on the day of her death; the quantity was so considerable, particularly about the Glottis, as to prevent the Epiglottis from approaching

approaching its aperture so near as it does in the natural state; when this matter however was wiped off, its cartilages, muscles, and ligaments appeared perfectly sound.

Neither did we discover in the aspera arteria any thing unnatural, except that its cartilaginous hoops, and those also of all the bronchial ramifications which we had occasion to open, partook of that softness which was observed in the cartilages that connected the ribs and sternum; but its coats, and the ligaments which unite these hoops, were in a very good state, nor could we perceive in the soft glandular membrane, which fills the back part of this and the bronchial canals, any morbid alteration whatsoever, although it was carefully examined from its origin, to its insertion in the tumours.

The glandula thyroides, the thymus, the glands which are situated at the angle of the first ramification of the aspera arteria and all the bronchial ones were of the same size, colour, and consistence as they are observed to be in the natural state.

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The elevations which puffed up the left Lung, now become the objects of our search, were laid open by a longitudinal incision, and found to consist of two tumours, about the bigness of a large walnut each, placed by each other, and separated only by a thin membranous partition; the side of that which lay next the sternum had two holes, which communicated with the bronchial tubes, as by blowing into those that belonged to the tumour, the air passed into the cavity which was probably formed by the purulent matter which had been expectorated, and by pressing on the portion which lay between the ends of these tubes and the edge of the incision which was made on it, the same kind of matter ran into the cavity on one side, and insinuated itself, by continuing the pressure, into the bronchial tubes on the other: the other portion of this tumour, although matter seemed, to the touch, to fluctuate in several points of it, still, when pressed, did not discharge any into the incision; but when cut on those fluctuating points, we found in different cells, matter approaching more or less to a purulent state.

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The tumour belonging to the other lobe of the same Lung, appeared nearly in the same condition as the portion now described, except that in the upper part of it, we observed an elevation or bag more pointed, and softer than any of the rest, and the bronchial ramifications which were inserted in it were also more conspicuous; when pressed however in the same manner as the preceding tumour, none of the matter which it contained, was seen to enter these delicate tubes, but by introducing a small wire into their cavities, and pushing it gently through the sides of the bag, which opposed but a very slight resistance, then the pressure caused matter to flow into them, and swell them pretty considerably: out of this tumour when opened, we collected two tea spoonfuls of matter, perfectly advanced to a purulent state, and to all appearances not of a bad quality.---The blood-vessels which covered the surfaces of both these tumours were all varicous, and in almost every point of them the marks of inflammation were manifest.

As these two lobular tumours had now furnished us with such discoveries as they seemed able to afford in their situation, they were carefully taken out of the Lung,

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without.

without much disfiguring the neighbouring parts, and put to macerate in water, in order to assist us in our future inquiries.

The smaller tumours, which were felt in the remainder of the left Lung and the right, were now the objects of our attention, and we dissected towards them in every direction, following the ramifications of the bronchiæ which never failed to lead us to them; these tubercles, (as I shall continue in future to call them, as that term cannot, like many others, lead into practical errors) were numerous, and of very different figures and size; some of them were irregularly round or triangular, and as large as hazle nuts, others much smaller, but the smallest were not bigger than small peas; the largest, when cut, appeared a spongy lump, moderately compact, which when pressed, gave out a little mucous matter, tinged with red points which resembled coagulated blood; the smaller ones differed from these only in consistence; they were not so compact, and the hardness appeared confined to a spot either on the side or on the bottom; but the seat of the hardness was always found in the bottom of the smallest---when the soft parts
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of these two last species of tubercles were prickt with the point of a scalpel, it immediately collapsed, and the whole shortly assumed a lenticular form.

Although the two large tumours which were taken out of the lobes of the left Lung, had been macerated for several hours in warm water, which was renewed from time to time, still their texture was not sufficiently loosened to enable us to discover with any degree of certainty the nature of their structure: after having cut them in different directions and washed them alternately, all we could infer was, that they were lumps consisting of disorganized membranous cells, and blood-vessels irregularly interwoven and closely adhering to each other; we attempted to peel off their covering which the water had separated and raised in small vesicles, in some places; but in general, the adhesion was so firm, that in the attempt the substance of the tumour was torn, and fragments of it stuck to the membrane which was pulled from them.

The largest tubercles, which were also prepared and examined in the same manner, furnished

furnished no discovery which could, in our opinion, tend to throw more light on the subject of our inquiry: but in the others, particularly the smallest, we observed what perhaps may assist in future attempts to investigate the first rudiments of this disease.

The larger sort became soft and pulpy, and the blood-vessels which were spread on them, were by no means so apparent as before maceration in water; some parts of all of them were vesicular, and when the membranes which composed the vesicles were peeled off, their hardness clearly appeared to proceed from a callosity in the opposite side and the bottom of the tubercle, which formed a small elevation within the vesicle, and a proportionate depression on the outside of it; this small elevation, which was of a dusky colour, disappeared by patiently peeling away the thickened membranes of which it was composed; when cut, these tubercles appeared porous, with small cells, some of which contained a ropy, clear matter, resembling the white of an egg.

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We blew into the bronchial ramifications which corresponded with tubercles of the same size, which were left in the Lungs, but could not perceive that the air entered them; it extended however some of the smallest; they were entirely vesicular, and the hard spot on their bottom proved to be nothing else than a thickness of the membranes which spread more or less according to their size; by peeling the part the hardness was erased.

IN about five weeks after the death of the mother, I was informed by the hospital nurse to whom the infant was entrusted, that it expired the preceding night; which, from her account, we judged to have been produced by acidity in the stomach and bowels, a very frequent cause of such accidents at its age: application being immediately made to the father for leave to open the body, he readily consented.

For

For the French, happily for the progress of medical knowledge, although they loved their relations, particularly their children, as well as any other people in the world, were not imbued with that weak, ignorant prejudice which renders the inhabitants of other countries so averse to operations of this nature; whenever the cause of death seemed doubtful, or that it was expected that an inquiry may contribute in the least to the preservation or relief of the survivors, the rich and even persons in easy circumstances seldom or never neglected to have the body examined, and as their example, in this respect, was insensibly followed by the lower classes of society, this laudable custom became almost general throughout the kingdom.

After having examined the abdomen of this child, and found in the intestines, particularly the colon, a certain quantity of deep green excrement, much resembling boiled spinach chopt very fine, which evinced the presence of acidity, and accounted for its death; the breast was opened in the same manner as that of its mother, by cutting out the sternum, and forcing

forcing back the ribs so as to leave the Lungs entirely uncovered; the cartilages of the ribs, and those that unite the three bones of the sternum, were very soft, but the cavity of the breast appeared proportionably larger and better conformed than that of the mother.

As the surface of the Lungs did not differ in the least from the natural colour and figure, we should have deemed it sound and passed it by without further notice, as is the custom when no suspicion is entertained, had not the chief object of our inquiry been to acquire a thorough knowledge of the state of this organ: we therefore pressed and removed its substance between our fingers with attention, and feeling in many places both of the right and left Lung several small hard lumps, we began the dissection, and directed it towards them, in the same manner as was practised in the foregoing case.

As we advanced in the operation we observed that the larynx, the trachea arteria, the bronchiæ and all their cartilages, ligaments, membranes and glands were in
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the most healthy condition: when arrived within a small distance of the tubercles, the two bronchiæ were blown into, and we could perceive that their bulk and resistance increased as each Lung was dilated; the tubercles were now closely examined, not only in their situation, but also when taken out, and macerated in the same manner that those of the mother had been; they evidently consisted of aerial vesicles, blighted, as it were, and shrivelled on their bottoms which were thickened by the adhesion of the different vessels and cellular substance which surround them. A few hours maceration in warm water, rendered their hardness almost imperceptible, but they soon recovered it again when put into vinegar, or one of the mineral acids however copiously diluted.

The Daughter of Madame MARTIN GUINARD, a child of about five years of age, and of a very delicate constitution, died of a low nervous fever, to which children are very liable at Lyons; (b) as the father died a year before, in the most advanced stage of a Consumption, the lady was very desirous to know whether his disorder had in any respect contributed to the death of the child: two of the Hospital Surgeons were therefore called in to open the body, and my assistance was requested on the occasion. Both the Lungs contained a considerable number of blighted vesicles, somewhat more shrivelled than those described in the preceding case; but they were not larger, nor in the least inflamed, consequently incapable, in that state, of producing any bad effect whatsoever, in the course of the fever.

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(b) Vid. my Letter on the yellow Peruvian Bark, addressed to Dr. Relph, Physician to Guy's Hospital, where a description of this Fever, and the Method which was attended with the most success in the cure of it, are given.

As I presume that the anatomical cases now given are sufficient for the present purpose, my design in relating the following is only to shew, to what a degree the minute cause of this species of Consumption will rise when excited by any of the occasional causes which rouse it into action,

The Hon. Mr. CONWAY was, according to a custom which prevails in these countries, sent in the most advanced stage of this disorder, to the Continent for the recovery of his health; he had tried the too much celebrated air of Montpellier, (c) that of Nice and the Isle of Hieres, from which he had received as little benefit as ought to be expected; concluding from thence that the air of these places was too keen for his Lungs, he came to Lyons, and settled at La Chaux, a small village about three miles distant from the city, situated on a hill which commanded the river Saône, a place of late years becoming fashionable, where in a very short time after his arrival, he died,

As

(c) The celebrated Boërhaave calls the air of Montpellier *aer anti-phthisicus*, probably from some of his patients having recovered there from consumptive disorders, most undoubtedly very different from the species we now treat of.

As his Brother Lord HUGH SEYMOUR had resolved to have the body sent to England, I was requested to inspect occasionally the embalment, which was performed by the Surgeons in a very masterly manner, and thus had an opportunity of having the breast and Lungs carefully examined.

Although the body, which was very slender and emaciated, measured six feet one inch French measure, still the cavity of the breast, and the bones that composed it, particularly the sternum, appeared to bear so little proportion with it, that the one was not more capacious, nor the others longer than are generally observed to be in boys of fourteen years of age; the scapulæ were considerably elevated and drawn forward; (*scapulæ alatæ*) both the Lungs, which had contracted several large and strong adhesions with the Pleura, were totally disfigured, and their lax, spongy substance and colour so much altered from the natural state as to resemble nearly that of the liver; many deep incisions were made on them in various directions, which, by pressing on both sides of the cut, were soon filled with a purulent, ichorous matter of various colours. Notwithstanding
this

this almost entire change of the organ, we nevertheless could discover nothing in the larynx, aspera arteria or bronchiæ which denoted an unhealthy state.

Hereditary. It seems to me that if these Cases do not demonstrate what I have already said, that the first principles of this species of Consumption are never acquired, but really transmitted from diseased parents to their offspring, they at least render that opinion extremely probable; in JANETON DESFORGE's infant, and in Madame GUINARD's child, we find the apparatus of this disorder formed and ready to give signs of its existence, whenever excited by any occasional cause adequate to that effect: nor can it be supposed that in either of these cases, particularly the former, these tubercles which were found plentifully disseminated in the substance of the Lungs, originated from any circumstance that might have happened after the births

births of these children; as although both were delicate, still neither of them was attacked with any sickness before that which caused its death.

FROM this discovery, therefore, combined The Definition. with the known symptoms of this disease, and the other phenomena which these and the two other bodies presented, it is allowable to define this kind of Consumption, an innate defect of the Lungs, always attended by a vicious conformation of the breast and a delicate habit, whose proximate cause, when excited by occasional ones, produces a cough with frequent pains in different parts of the breast, moderate in the beginning, but increasing as the disorder advances; a hectic fever; a spitting of blood, generally followed by an expectoration of purulent matter; an emaciation of the upper part of the body, and dropical swellings of the extremities; copious discharges by colliquative sweats or stools which succeed each other; and certain Death.

The occasional causes which excite tubercles and thus give rise to this disease, are happily

happily much less numerous than we are given to understand by most of the methodical writers, who must be supposed to have copied each other, as they assign no reason for admitting causes, which when properly examined, are found wholly incapable of producing the effect: among these the scrofula, venereal disorders, itch, and hemoptysis deserve most our attention, as their adoption leads unexperienced persons, who are obliged to take the author's word for what he advances, into a practice, which, after exposing the patient to long disgusting courses, terminates by considerably shortening his life.

IMAGINARY CAUSES OF THE CONSUMPTION.

Before I proceed, therefore, to point out what appears to me to be the real cause of this species of Consumption, a few reflexions tending to shew the improbability of its being

being produced by these disorders, are likely to be attended with some advantage, as by raising, at least, a doubt in the mind of the practitioner, they may serve to diminish the number of fruitless and dangerous attempts, made to cure, or even diminish the violence of this disorder, by opposing such causes.

Every organ which composes the human body, the glands particularly, are subject to disorders peculiar perhaps to their construction, or resulting from the nature of the functions assigned to them by nature in the most precise and unerring manner: thus one organ will resist even an infectious matter when applied to it, whilst on another, with which it seems to have more affinity, it will produce its usual effect; nor is this effect easily transmitted to other parts, even when supposed to be of the same texture; the disorder produced will, before any portion of it is transferred elsewhere, first exert itself to the utmost on the part to which it belongs, and even then, the portion detached from the original seat is not conveyed indiscriminately to any part of the body, but is deposited on places, with so much punctuality,

ality, that it is only there that experience has taught us to look for them.

King's evil,
or
Scrofula,
and
Lues Vene-
rea.

The scrofula or king's evil, and the venereal disease are strong proofs of the existence of this natural law: the original seat of the former of these diseases appears to be in the lymphatic glands which lie on both sides of the neck, from the mastoide apophysis, and along the internal jugular vein, all the way down to its lower part; it is only by the enlargement of these glands that we are able to conclude that a scrofulous taint exists in the body.

From infancy to the age of puberty these tumours often swell considerably, and although the skin which covers them is seldom discoloured, still the acute pain which the child complains of when they are pressed, clearly denotes a certain degree of inflammation, which resolves however, and when the slight transitory causes which irritated them, such as colds, dentition, eruptions of the face, or on the scalp, subside, they return nearly to their natural size.

About

About the fourth year of the child's age, if the quantity of the scrofulous ferment in the body is not very considerable, or its quality very active, nature dissolves the humour which obstructed these glands: but in either of these cases, they swell gradually, until they are extended as much as their structure will possibly admit of; a fluctuation at last takes place, but the formation of purulent matter is very slow, unless the tumours are irritated by wrong treatment which is too often pursued, with a view to resolve them; if opened, foul ulcers with callous edges are produced, and when they have consumed the lymphatic glands, the taint is communicated to the neighbouring salivary ones, particularly the parotids, the thyroide and the amygdalæ, where it produces the same effect; at length if the patient does not sink under the copious discharges and hectic fever which attend this stage of the disorder, the mucilaginous glands are affected, and considerable swellings, commonly called white swellings, arise in the moveable large articulations of the lower extremities, such as the knees and ankles, which end not only in the destruction of the ligaments and cartilages with which they are provided, but also by rotting the heads of the bones

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and piercing in several places through the ligaments and integuments by the means of which they are connected.

The venereal disease makes its first appearance in the parts of generation both of males and females: in the former it is seated in the small glands which lie dispersed in the substance of the urethra; in the latter, in the glandular corpuscles with which almost every point which surrounds the *sinus* is abundantly furnished.

From thence if neglected, or injudiciously treated, it extends itself inwardly and outwardly to the neighbouring glands in every direction; in males the inferior and superior prostrate glands, the glans penis, the small sebaceous ones, the inguinal and femoral glands inflame, and are soon grievously afflicted, some with corroding chancres, others with large cancerous ulcers, which if not immediately prevented will soon consume the parts: after making the same havoc externally on females, this disease, without injuring the intermediate canal, throws itself inwardly on the glandular bodies which lie on the internal orifice of the womb, where
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it produces cancerous, corroding ulcers, which, as they admit of no cure, soon become fatal.

In both sexes, when the venereal disease has thus exerted itself on the seat where it first took its rise, it removes to the cutaneous glands of the head and throat, preferably to every other part of the body, where it causes not only excruciating headaches, and dangerous exulcerations of the pharynx, but also a variety of other distressing symptoms, particularly herpetic ulcers, which from besetting that part of the scalp, which covers the upper part of the os frontis, and the forehead itself, has acquired the name of *corona veneris*, the garland of Venus.

By this abridged description of the rise and progress of these two disorders, it appears that they are both confined to the cutaneous glands of the two distinct parts of the body to which they are so peculiarly adapted, that experience shews us the inutility of surmising that they exist elsewhere, if no trace of them can be found on the places where they ought to originate; it also seems clear that when their translation takes place,

place, it is not liable to chance, but regulated by a law, the reality of which is so well confirmed by observation, that when no indication is perceived on these parts, the Practitioner is authorized to conclude, either that no part of the taint has quitted its original seat, or that the disorder is cured. We even see, (and it will contribute to confirm what has been advanced) that when scrofulous matter is transferred from the neck to the lower extremities, or in venereal cases, when the virus is carried from the parts of generation to the head, not only the muscles but even the innumerable glands which lie between these parts and the sources of infection receive no injury; even the breasts, which in a great measure are composed of a glandular substance, escape unhurt.

How then can the Scrofula and the Lues venerea which thus spare even glandular bodies almost in contact with them, be supposed to desert the parts of the skin which nature has allotted to them, in order to deposit themselves on the spongy substance of the Lungs to produce tubercles, an effect of which, even if applied to that organ, their taint is incapable? and if one of those

Metastases

Metastases from the surface of the body on the viscera, which are so often and so innocently perhaps suspected, particularly by our ancient authors, must take place; surely by the most simple rules of analogy, the suspicion should fall on the stomach, the liver, the kidneys, the pancreas, all glandular bodies, or abundantly furnished with them, rather than on the Lungs, which, as we know, contains but a few at the angles of the bronchial ramifications and in the membrane which compleats the circumference of the trachea arteria; still the diseases of these organs are seldom or never attributed to such causes.

No hospital in Europe, except perhaps the Hotel Dieu of Paris, afforded so compleat an opportunity of investigating the seat and causes of disorders, as that of Lyons; its annual receipt of patients exceeded twenty-three thousand, and the deaths upon an average, amounted to six or six and a half per hundred, in the course of the year; on these bodies the Physicians and principal Surgeon were entitled to make every search which they deemed capable of advancing the progress of their profession; and indeed few of them

them from which any useful information could, in our opinion, be obtained, escaped our inquiries: during the twelve years that I was over this great institution, I do here sincerely affirm, that not one example occurred, which could give me room even to suspect, that scrofulous or venereal matter had produced a pulmonary Consumption: but in order to decide this interesting question by practical proof, which cannot be so easily eluded as speculative arguments, let me be allowed to ask any Medical Observer whether in the course of his practice, he has cured this or any other species of pulmonary Consumption by attacking a scrofulous or venereal cause? has he even perceived that the best methods of treatment employed on these occasions, have ever procured the slightest alleviation of any symptom belonging to this disorder? nay, has he not invariably remarked, that every attempt which has been made in consequence of the hypothesis, has only served to kindle tubercles, which perhaps might have remained for many years in a state of inactivity, or (in case the Consumption was already declared) helped to plunge in an untimely manner, the patient into his grave? if all this
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be granted, and most undoubtedly it must, if it is not demonstrated on the principle of *ablata causa tollitur effectus* that a pulmonary Consumption is never produced by either of these causes, at least it must be allowed, that the practice founded on their admission should be for ever considered not only as useless, but cruel and dangerous; (d) a concession which fully answers my purpose.

Although the methods of treating a Consumption supposed to be caused by a repelled ^{Itch.} itch, are not immediately so detrimental to the patient as those employed in the foregoing diseases, yet if by weakening the constitution, they dispose the body to the many disorders which relaxation induces; if by establishing artificial discharges, the natural ones, upon the regulation of which our health in a great measure depends, are disturbed; if in short they are absolutely useless,

(d) Whoever carefully examines the structure, form and consistence of tubercles, and compares them with scrofulous tumours, will be convinced that there exists not the least analogy between them: it is nevertheless on this imaginary resemblance that the practice of giving hemlock, mercury, bark and many other active remedies, is founded.

less, surely a subjection to them ought to be considered, at least, as a very great hardship.

The itch was thought to be an acrid matter thrown by nature on the skin, in order to preserve the interior organs from its baneful effects: in consequence of this theory a long preparation, such as bleeding, repeated purgations, warm bathing and various alteratives, was deemed necessary to expel or correct any part of the acrimonious matter still supposed to lurk in the humours, before any attempt was made to cure it.

Notwithstanding these precautions, if after the complaint was removed by proper applications made to the affected parts, the patient happened to be attacked with a cough, or any other ailment which could not be readily accounted for in another manner, a repelled itch was decisively pronounced, and perpetual blisters, issues and the like, were immediately put in practice and kept up for years, in order to invite the imaginary psoric matter back to the skin, which it was thought to have deserted; nay, if these means did not appear sufficiently speedy and efficacious to the Practitioner, the unfortunate patient was

was obliged to wear linen taken from off an itchy body, whereby he was affected anew, and thus exposed to undergo, sooner or later, the same disagreeable process which was before employed to deliver him from the disease.

How absurd must this practice, which is pregnant with so many evils, appear to every learned and experienced Physician, who from modern observations and experiments knows, that the itch is no more, even in its worst stage, than an aggregation of minute pimples, occasioned by animalcules burrowing in the skin, which communicate themselves, to any person who remains for any considerable time in contact with persons or things infected with them; and who consequently is well assured not only by this knowledge, but also by daily practice, that, without the least dread of repelling on the Lungs or elsewhere, these insects may and ought to be destroyed as soon as perceived, with as great safety as any others which infest any other part of the human body: nor in one case more than the other, is any kind of preparation

preparation necessary, whatever the age or constitution of the infected person may be!

And how afflictive must it be to those, who on a supposition that these insects, or part of the matter contained in the little ulcers which they create, are transferred to the lungs, the liver, the stomach or any of the bowels, prevail on patients, by fair promises of relief, to submit to these experiments, when they discover at last (and they most undoubtedly will) by the best of all proofs, that is, a total miscarriage of all their endeavours, that the patient's health and their own characters have been, at least, nearly the victims of a false, antiquated theory!

Before I quit this subject, on which it would be needless to expatiate any further, let me only remark, with how much regularity this disorder, when allowed to extend itself, obeys the law to which the preceding, as well as perhaps every other chronic disease of the skin, are subject; the hands, as being more exposed to this infection than any other part of the body, are first attacked, and the itch seats itself between the upper joints of the fingers; from thence, in time, a
portion

portion of it is deposited across the belly immediately under the navel ; the bendings of the knees are next affected, and at last, if the disease becomes inveterate (which is seldom the case, as the specifics for destroying the insects which produce it are well known, and easily procured) the arm-pits partake of the infection.

The Hemoptysis, or spitting of blood, ^{Hemoptysis.} which has been almost universally deemed a cause of the pulmonary Consumption, cannot, in my opinion, by any means be considered as such ; this accident is only a symptom, which when accompanied with others, particularly a bad conformation of the breast, clearly denotes not only the species of the disorder, but also that it has made such a progress as will seldom admit of permanent relief.

In order to appreciate this assertion which from its novelty may perhaps be too hastily condemned; let it be recollected on what a considerable number of patients we have seen this accident take place, without ever causing the disorder imputed to it, or indeed any

any disorder whatsoever. How many persons of good sound constitutions are liable to evacuations of blood, both by coughing and hawking, whenever an increased quantity of that fluid distends the sanguineous vessels, or when its density prevents a free circulation? The peasants of Germany, of Switzerland and even of our own country, who stupidly accustom nature to bleeding in the spring, by way of a precaution against inflammatory disorders, are exposed to a hemoptysis when this habitual evacuation is neglected; a suppression of the menses, the piles, or any other natural sanguineous discharge will be often followed by a spitting of blood, which will cease, when the cause that produced it is removed, without doing the least injury to the Lungs; all this most assuredly could not be constantly the case, were it capable of becoming the cause of a pulmonary Consumption.

So far indeed is a hemoptysis from being the cause of this disease, that it never precedes it, nor does it even join itself to the other symptoms, such as the cough, the hectic fever, the difficulty of breathing, &c.
until

until the Consumption is far advanced, and and then the oftener it recurs, and the greater the quantity of blood expectorated, the nearer the appearance of purulent matter, and consequently the dissolution of the patient.

The reason of this will appear, I believe, very plain, if attention is paid to what was observed in the dissected bodies already described: on the tubercles discovered in the Lungs of the child of five years of age, a slight dilatation of the blood-vessels which surrounded them in every point, was remarked; this dilatation was very considerable on the tubercles found in the woman, and much more so in those that were seen in the body of Mr. Conway; now as often as any of the occasional causes of Consumption hereafter to be mentioned, irritates these tubercles to a certain degree, a rupture of one or more of the dilated vessels must take place, occasioned either by their over dilatation or erosion, and a hemoptysis be produced, whose duration and copiousness clearly indicate the extent of the mischief.

Surely,

Surely, in this account, which has at least the merit of being deduced from facts, we can discover nothing to support the opinion that a spitting of blood is the cause of a Consumption; to the reverse, it seems manifest, that it is an accident whose presence or absence is as indifferent to the course of the disease as any other of its symptoms, consequently whose cessation, whether produced by art or by the whole of the extravasated blood being expectorated, cannot avail in the least towards its relief; and this conclusion is unhappily too well confirmed by experience.

The means, however, employed to put a stop to the hemoptysis, are not so injurious as those which are made use of in the treatment of the scrofula, the lues venerea, and the itch; in the first, emetics and drastic purges, extract of hemlock, mercurials, chalybeates, bark, &c. are administered by the unexperienced, in hopes of dissolving the tubercles; mercury also and its various saline preparations are the principal remedies in the second; and several irritating alteratives are often prescribed in the last. All these, as will

will shortly appear, promote the Consumption, by exciting its real cause, and thus hasten the patient to his end: but small doses of nitre, cooling diet and drink, the only remedies which ought to be ordered in a hemoptysis, cannot produce such effects; therefore as by retarding the rupture of the other blood-vessels, they may procure a truce, and quiet the patient's mind, the use of them is allowable.

Having hitherto endeavoured to develop the nature of this species of Consumption, and, solely with a view of preventing useless and dangerous experiments being attempted in consequence of an ill-founded theory, taken some time to shew the improbability of this disorder's being produced by such causes as chiefly inticed the inexperienced to make these trials; I shall now examine what is the occasional cause of this disease, that is, by what stimulus these tubercles, so minute in their origin, are urged on by degrees until at last they arrive at a size and state, competent to the destruction of the human body.

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I have already advanced, and I believe it has been confirmed by the anatomical searches on which the assertion was founded, that a Consumption proceeding from tubercles in the Lungs is a hereditary disorder, and that the infant is born with an apparatus suitable to its production, whenever an occasional cause, equal to the task of kindling up these small tumours, is applied to them.

Now if we reflect on the symptoms and effects of inflammation on the other viscera of the human body, and compare them with the signs of Consumption and the phenomena discovered in the bodies submitted to dissection, we, I believe, will find their similitude so evident as to oblige us to conclude that they must be produced by the same cause.

The symptoms common to all inflammatory diseases are, a quickened circulation, a hard tense pulse, pains sometimes moderate, sometimes acute and throbbing, according to the seat and progress of the Inflammation.

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A Consumption, in the exacerbations, which denote the formation of purulent matter, is also attended with a quick, tense pulse; the pains, particularly of the breast, are always observed to be as acute and intense as, making an allowance for the lax substance of the Lungs, they possibly can be in any other species of inflammation whatsoever.---

All inflammations of the viscera are followed by a thickening of the membranes of the organ affected, and by adhesions contracted with most of the neighbouring membranes with which it comes into contact.

The same accidents must have taken place in the dissected Lungs, as the tumours found in them could be formed only by the thickening and cohesion of the blighted vesicles observed in the two children, which by degrees affect whole lobules with the membranous substance and vessels of every kind which surround them, as we have seen in the woman; and at length by the progress of adhesions, convert the whole organ into a disorganized mass, such as it has been found in the body of the young man.

When an inflammation of any of the viscera terminates in suppuration, a hectic fever takes place accompanied with every symptom with which a pulmonary Consumption is attended, purulent expectoration only excepted.

REAL CAUSES OF THE CONSUMPTION.

It would be needless, I think, to extend the comparison any farther, in order to demonstrate that inflammation is the sole cause of Consumption; let it suffice then to add by way of complement to what has been already said on the subject, that the remedies which are found by experience to afford the greatest relief in inflammations, are the only ones which have any success in the treatment of this species of Consumption: all others, however extolled they may be by ignorant or designing men, as specifics for curing this disorder, will, in practice, not only completely

pletely baffle such expectations, but even besides tormenting the patient, become powerful promoters of his death.

The slight difference observed between the tubercles found in the child of five years of age, and that of six weeks, is a very strong proof, that although an infant brings into the world the germs of this fatal disease, yet, by carefully guarding it against the causes which produce inflammation, they may, even to the most advanced age, remain in a state of inactivity: it is also reasonable to conclude, from the inoffensive state in which tubercles as large as hazle nuts, were discovered in JANETON DESFORGES, that although inflammatory irritation should by adherences augment the size of tubercles, still, if the irritation is stopt before a suppuration is produced by it, nature will accustom herself to this encumbrance, as she is known to do in cases of encysted tumours of much larger dimensions, and thus a pulmonary Consumption be prevented through the course even of a long life.

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The greatest attention therefore is necessary, when a vicious conformation of the breast, the (inseparable signal of a hereditary taint in the Lungs,) occurs; to watch the rise of every cause of general and particular inflammation, and to employ with speed proper means for stopping its progress; as the duration of the individual's life entirely depends on the promptitude and skill which are manifested on this occasion.

Unless attacked with eruptive disorders, children are not, in a great degree, liable to inflammatory complaints; their constitution is not only averse to these diseases, but they are also less exposed to the causes which produce them; and this, no doubt, is the reason, that a Consumption from suppurated tubercles, is seldom or never observed at that period of Life: as, however, an augmentation of tubercles will take place, if irritated in a degree much inferior to what is required to determine manifest inflammation, and that the length of life is in proportion to the backwardness of these tumours, the greatest care is requisite, to guard infants against any cause which may contribute to their increase,

crease, by stimulating the vessels and increasing the velocity of the blood, even in the slightest manner,

An improper regimen ; fermented liquors, when given in the smallest quantity, if repeated ; a suppression of cutaneous excretion ; violent dentition ; the whooping cough, and the measles are causes adequate to the production of an irritation, sufficient for the enlargement of tubercles, in the infant state.--- Violent exercise ; the unskilful management, or accidental suppression of any natural sanguineous discharge ; heating remedies ; a frequent use of spirituous liquors, are the causes which usually determine their inflammation about the age of puberty, when the solids and fluids of the individual are most disposed to be worked up to such a pitch,

Occasional
Causes of
Consump-
tion.

The absolute failure of every remedy, however extolled for a time, in the actual cure of this species of Consumption, makes it extremely dubious, whether the unremitting endeavours of Physicians will ever succeed in making any discovery which may
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be attended with happier effects; nor should a want of success on this occasion be imputed as a reproach on the Medical Profession, as the dissected bodies of the two grown persons plainly demonstrate the impossibility of ever restoring the Lungs to that sound state on which a perfect cure entirely depends.

A preventative Cure is, therefore, the only one, on which we ought to place any dependance; and as that consists in resisting each of these causes, I here offer for that purpose, such means as I have found by experience, notwithstanding their simplicity, to be most successful: if duly attended to, I am strongly persuaded, that a Consumption of any kind, will become a disease, much less common than it now unfortunately is,

PREVENTATIVE

PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT OF INFANTS.

WITH respect to the regimen proper for ^{Regimen} infants, there cannot be the least doubt that in general milk is the only food, which in every respect is the best adapted to their organs; but to infants, whose conformation, joined to a consumptive taint in the parents, afford strong proofs of tubercles, this nourishment, on account of its cool, demulcent properties, is so suitable, that its mixture with paps of any kind during the time of suckling, is a custom that should be abandoned.

If the consumptive complaint appears to be on the mother's side, or if she is of a weak delicate constitution, for the child's sake, as well as her own, she by no means ought to undertake suckling it; that employment should be given to a strong, healthy country nurse, who is accustomed to live mostly on vegetable diet, a habit which no attempt should be made to break
her

her of, from false notions of its not being sufficiently strengthening for her and the child; as such food is found by experience, not only to answer this end, as well as animal substances, but also, has over them the precious advantage, of not disposing so much to inflammatory ailments: should the nurse however seem very desirous of animal food, a little may be allowed her now and then, provided that she makes use of only such as are known to be of easy digestion: good beef, mutton, and tame fowl, seem in this respect preferable to every other species of flesh meat, but they should neither be salted, nor made up into seasoned pies or ragouts, the plainest manner of dressing them being the properest and safest, not only on this, but on every other occasion whatsoever.

Fermented
and
Spirituos
Liquors.

The pernicious effects of fermented liquors, but particularly of distilled ones, on the human body, have been so fully described by Medical Writers, that I deem it unnecessary to run over here the long catalogue of the dreadful diseases which this truly savage custom produces: it will be sufficient

sufficient for our present purpose to say, that such is the inflammatory and corrosive powers of these liquors, that no organ of the human body, from the brain, heart, lungs, liver, &c. down to the almost invisible cutaneous gland, can resist for any time their baneful influence; whatever the age or constitution of the individual may be, who contracts the vile habit of drinking spirituous or fermented liquors immoderately, the utter ruin of his whole frame, (notwithstanding a few examples of the contrary, vauntingly cited by drunkards) must be the inevitable consequence.

If then the best constitutions are soon totally impaired by the inflammatory influence of this cause, it is very easy to conceive, how speedily, and with how much certainty, the repeated sips of wine, punch, strong beer, &c. given under various pretences to children, particularly to those who are affected with tubercles, must excite a degree of irritation sufficient to effect their enlargement: nor can it be doubted in the least, that the milk of a nurse who habituates herself to these incendiary draughts, is

so impregnated with them, as to be capable of producing the same effect: at the same time, therefore, that Parents are careful, to prevent any fermented or spirituous liquor whatsoever, from being given in any form, even in the most minute quantity to the child, a very watchful eye should be kept over the conduct of the nurse, lest her intemperance in this respect should overturn all other salutary precautions; a glass or two of table beer may be allowed her at her meals, on all other occasions water, milk and water, buttermilk, and the like, will allay thirst, and support the strength both of the nurse and the infant much better than drinks, which, from their stimulating qualities, are by the ignorant thought to possess that property in an eminent degree.

When every precaution is taken to preserve the salubrity of the nurse's milk, the child should not be taken from the breast until, at least, dentition is entirely perfected; the longer indeed it is kept on this nourishment the better, as from its salutary effects, even when a Consumption is evidently confirmed,

we may easily infer how proper and useful this species of food must be, when the object of our endeavours is, to retard by every means the first attack of this disorder.

From the time that the child is weaned, until it has arrived at the age of puberty, if animal food be allowed, it should be taken very seldom and very sparingly; the antiphlogistic regimen proposed for the nurse, is the only one which can afford us well founded hopes of contributing by diet to the preservation of the child; it should therefore be insisted on with the greatest exactness; and in order to prevent transgressions as much as possible, as the individual's reason increases, it should be made sensible of the great necessity of pursuing stedfastly this manner of living, and given to understand, that the duration of its existence depends, in a great measure, on a strict observance of it.

An

Obstruction
of the in-
sensible Cu-
taneous per-
spiration.

An obstruction of the insensible cutaneous perspiration occasioned by the application of unusual cold or moisture to the body, is, of all other causes, that which most frequently produces the enlargement of tubercles, and their consequent inflammation: hence, in Great Britain and Ireland, islands subject to almost incessant vicissitudes in the state of the air, the number of consumptive cases is so considerable, that those who did not perceive that this disorder is always brought on by the occasional causes of inflammation, have invented ingenious theories, wherein the smoke of our coal fires, tea-drinking and various other causes, totally inadequate to such an effect, are assigned.

Notwithstanding the disadvantageousness of our climate, it seems to me, however, very probable, that by proper management, this general cause may be prevented, at least for many years, from effecting any notable alteration in the state of tubercles; for this purpose, the greatest care must be taken, that during infancy no attempts should be made to render the child *hardy* and *strong*, as it is commonly said, by the customary

customary means of dipping in cold water, and exposing the head, breast or other parts of the body which are usually covered, to cold and moisture: A well constituted child may escape the injury to which such experiments expose it, and one, whose only complaint is weakened and relaxed solids, will certainly receive much benefit from the former of them: but where any of the viscera, particularly the Lungs, is affected with an innate or acquired ailment, which weakens its resistance, or renders it liable to suffer by irritation, this practice must always be followed by very dangerous consequences.

Wet or moist coverings, when suffered to remain on the body for any time, will, by producing a spasmodic constriction of the pores of the skin, and thus stopping insensible perspiration, induce an irritation capable of ripening the cause of Consumption; strict attention is therefore requisite, to change the child's linens as soon as possible, after they are wetted; the parts should be washed with warm water in order to prevent the irritation of the urine, well dried, and warm dry cloths put on in their stead;

stead; the bed cloaths should be often examined, and kept free from the least wet or moisture; no article of cloathing should be allowed when wet or damp to remain on the child for any time, much less to dry on its body, which through neglect, is but too often the case; nor ought they be worn again until free from the slightest moisture.

A suppression of insensible transpiration of the most dangerous nature, as it is productive of immediate inflammatory effects, is that which takes place, by suddenly exposing the body when heated, to cold or moist air; wherefore, if persons affected with the principles of Consumption cannot be prevailed upon to avoid over-heated rooms, crowded assemblies, active diversions, and every other cause which considerably increases the natural heat of the body, at least, they should be warned not to rush out of an apartment in that state, but suffer themselves to cool gradually before they go into the open air.

Whoever has attentively observed the structure of the breasts of the southern inhabitants

habitants of Europe, their long necks and shrill voices, must allow that they appear as liable to Consumptive Diseases as any other people whatsoever; the infrequency therefore of this disease in France, Spain, Italy, &c must be almost wholly attributed to the evenness of their climate, and gentleness of their diversions, whereby the cutaneous perspiration is very seldom obstructed: I would then advise those parents, who have the means of employing every expedient for preventing this disorder, to send a child threatened with it, into one of these countries, where it may reside from seven years of age, until it has attained that of manhood; if placed among persons of good breeding, the child will soon imitate their sober manners and customs, and thus, by avoiding the most powerful occasional causes of Consumption, well founded hopes may be reasonably entertained, of its being enabled to carry the hereditary cause of this disorder, to a very advanced period of life, without suffering any remarkable inconvenience from it.

However

However vigilant we may be, to guard against every cause capable of obstructing insensible perspiration, we, nevertheless, can not expect but that this evacuation will be sometimes impeded, even though the individual should be brought up in the mildest climate: but if this accident seldom occurs, and that it is not neglected, but treated immediately in the mildest manner, the augmentation and irritation of tubercles will be kept within such bounds as to escape inflammation for a considerable time.

— So soon then as it is perceived, that an individual who has been exposed to cold and moisture, is affected with a cough, whether it is attended or not, with a pain and heaviness of the head, flying pains in the muscles of the breast or back, chilliness succeeded by heat, &c. he should be immediately put into a warm bed, and not allowed to leave it, until all these symptoms disappear, which seldom fails to happen on the fourth day, if not much sooner, unless Nature, that excellent Physician, is irritated and disturbed in her operations, by antimonial powders, saline draughts,

draughts, and a variety of other, at least uselefs remedies, which it is customary to administer on the occasion.

It happens but very feldom that a weak infirm person is attacked with any degree of fever, which could render bleeding indispensible: if however an extraordinary case should occur, an evacuation made, by applying a few leeches to the temples or on the breast, will be preferable to the lancet, as the necessary quantity of blood drawn in this insensible manner, will not depress the powers of nature so much as a smaller quantity if taken away in a stream.

Thin panadas, gruel, stewed prunes, roasted apples and the like, are the most proper nourishment in this indisposition; and the following drink should be taken plentifully, as it will contribute very much to allay irritation, facilitate the endeavours of nature towards the coction and expulsion of the retained humour, and restore perspiration;

I

Take,

Take,

Barley, two ounces,
Six figs cut in slices,
Dried raisins, one ounce.

Boil them for an hour in two quarts of water; strain off the drink, and dissolve in it as much honey as will render it agreeable to the patient.

Dentition.

Dentition, when allowed to affect children in a violent manner, will powerfully promote the augmentation of tubercles, not only by exciting the habit in general and rendering it feverish to a very high degree, but also by that irritation which affects the membranes that cover the lips, cheeks, tongue and gums being propagated to the stomach and Lungs, and producing vomiting and the fatiguing cough which seldom fails to attend it; the properest manner of keeping this operation of nature within
such

such bounds as will prevent its proceeding to these alarming extremities, is to guard carefully against costiveness, whereby the irritation on the nerves of the teeth, and the membranes which surround their roots in the sockets is diminished, by determining a part of the humours which obstruct them on the intestines: the following prescription will answer this purpose.

Take of

Rhubarb finely powdered, one
scruple,

Magnesia, half a drachm,

Polichrest Salt, fifteen grains.

Mix them well, and divide the whole into four equal parts, one of which should be given to the child every morning fasting, until the fit of teething is entirely over; this dose will generally prove sufficient to procure a lax stool or two in the course of the day: should it fail, however, of producing

ducing that effect, no inconvenience can result from a repetition of it in the evening.

Should dentition, however, have proceeded to such a pitch before this remedy is employed, as to threaten convulsive fits, which is very often the case; or should the fever and other symptoms of irritation be not immediately abated by its use, it will be highly adviseable to have a small quantity of blood drawn, by applying two or three leeches to the neck, on the exterior jugular vein, which is in every respect preferable, and strikes more at the cause, than the common practice of cutting through the gums; when this evacuation is over, half a tea spoonful of the Syrop of white Poppies, may be given, and repeated every third hour, until all the accidents are at least considerably mitigated, if not entirely subdued.

At the same time that this method for diverting the flow of humours from the gums is employed, two small blisters laid on behind the ears, are so remarkably successful

cessful in producing the same effect, that I scarcely remember any one case wherein they failed of affording the most speedy and permanent relief; provided that an irritation and discharge was kept up on the parts for three or four days, which may be done, by mixing a sufficient quantity of finely powdered Cantharides, with any ointment usually employed in dressing this kind of sores.

No disease to which children are subject, exposes such of them as are affected with tubercles in the Lungs, to a Consumption, in a more decisive and speedy manner than the Hooping Cough; in fact, all the other occasional causes of that disorder, seem to act on these tumours, so as only to operate their augmentation gradually during infancy, and by repetition prepare them for inflammation, which when it does take place, generally happens about the age of puberty, a period at which the habit is most obnoxious to this indisposition: whereas the Hooping Cough, if not kept within bounds by a proper treatment, irritates these tubercles to such a degree, that their increase, inflammation

Hooping
Cough.

tion, and consequently a confirmed Phthisis, are often the work of only a very few weeks.

In the treatment of the Hooping Cough, particularly when attended with this infirmity in the Lungs, stimulant medicines of all kinds, under whatever pretext they may be administered, greatly tend to determine its fatal termination; we know that repeated emetics, mixtures and draughts composed of Gum ammoniac, tincture of Castoreum, balsamic Syrop, &c. are of so irritating a nature, as to be often able to produce inflammation, even in the most healthy and sound organ; how much more certain then, must the incendiary effects of these remedies (now in general use, for the cure of this complaint) be, when the Lungs are affected with tumours already in the highest state of irritation, from a violent cough, and almost incessant attacks of spasmodic constriction? and how much more prudent would it be, even to leave this indisposition entirely to the care of Nature, than to tamper with drugs, from the use
of

of which nothing but mischief can be reasonably expected?

The antiphlogistic remedies, at the same time that they are not productive of these effects, are also found by experience to be the only ones that can be depended on, for the relief of the symptoms of this disorder, even when it is not complicated with any indisposition, where irritation is so much to be feared; in the beginning of this complaint, half a pint, or more, if the patient will take it, of the drink already recommended in the suppression of cutaneous evacuation, given every day, will seldom fail to mitigate the catarrh, which is the only symptom that requires our assistance, at this period.

Should it appear necessary, however, to attenuate the viscous humour, and to divert it from the Lungs in a speedier manner, the following will answer that intention, without inducing the least irritation.

Take

Take of

Madder root bruised, half an ounce; boil it for half an hour, in a quart of water; strain off the liquor, and sweeten it with a sufficient quantity of honey.

When the convulsive affection comes on, which will be known by the shrill crowing that attends the cough, three or four leeches applied to the neck or breast, will afford a sufficient quantity of blood to prevent inflammation, in a weak habit; if, however, the degree of irritation should require it, this operation may be very safely repeated, at any time, through the course of the disorder.

In about eight or ten days after the commencement of the convulsive affection, the fits will become milder and shorter; then the

the following prescription bids the fairest, of any remedy that I am acquainted with, for relieving the spasm and effecting a cure.

Take of

Yellow Peruvian Bark bruised,
half an ounce; boil it for a
quarter of an hour, in a pint
of water; strain off the li-
quor, and dissolve in it a
pound of best brown sugar.

Two tea spoonfuls of this remedy should be given to the child, every second hour, until the complaint is entirely removed.

It will be objected to this preparation, that the energy of the Peruvian Bark is greatly diminished by boiling; however true that is, still experience will prove, that in this, and most convulsive diseases, this form of administering that excellent remedy, will

be generally attended with success, whilst other more powerful preparations of it will seldom answer our expectation.

Measles.

In the Measles, the last of the occasional causes of Consumption, to which children are particularly subject, the irritation of the organs of respiration is so considerable, that its effects are to be dreaded, even when the Lungs are in the most sound and perfect state; hence, we can easily conceive the extent of the danger to which this disorder exposes them, when the presence of tubercles renders them infirm, and liable to become, in a more particular manner, the seat of inflammation.

The only means of avoiding this event, is to regulate the fever so, as not to allow it to exceed the bounds, necessary for the support of the eruption: thus, if the fever runs high, and the eruption very red, blood-letting, performed in the manner recommended in the foregoing complaint, will be highly necessary; and according

according to the urgency of inflammatory symptoms, particularly the state of breathing, ought to be repeated, in any stage of the disorder.

If the child be weaned, no food should be allowed, but what is of the most cooling nature; thin panadas, roasted apples, stewed prunes, and the like, given sparingly, will be a proper and sufficient nourishment, during the few days that this disorder lasts; and a liberal use of the pectoral drink, prescribed in the suppression of insensible transpiration, will best answer the intentions of allaying the violence of the fever, and mitigating the cough. Should the child be attacked with the Measles, whilst on the breast, it will receive almost as much benefit from the nurse's being kept to a proper quantity of the same or similar food and drink, as if taken by the child itself.

Two small blisters placed behind the ears, at the same time that the eruption makes its appearance, and a discharge kept up from them, through the whole course of the disorder,

disorder, will, by establishing a point of irritation on the surface of the body, and thus diverting the flow of humours from the Lungs, be as conducive to the safety of the patient, as any remedy whatsoever that can be employed.

A moderate degree of heat should be kept up in the apartment, wherein the treatment of a person attacked with this disorder is carried on; and, as one of its most troublesome symptoms is, a considerable irritation of the eyes, light ought to be kept out as much as possible. When the eruption has scaled off, and the skin recovered its natural colour, it is generally presumed, that the disorder is at an end; care however should be taken, even then, not to expose the patient suddenly to a cold air, as there are many instances of a fever of the inflammatory kind being excited by such means.

— When we reflect on the violent effects of the Measles, when taken in the common manner, it is really a matter of surprise, that the inoculation of this disease, by which

which its most dangerous symptoms are considerably mitigated, should be so much neglected; the necessity of this operation is, at least, as great, as that which is so much in use for the small pox; and as it can be performed, even by the most inexperienced person, with the greatest safety, surely nothing should prevent Parents from practising it, at least on children liable to pulmonary Consumption.

PREVENTATIVE TREATMENT OF ADULTS.

ALTHOUGH by the means now proposed, the enlargement and inflammation of tubercles, will very probably be prevented through infancy, and the individual, thus far, not only preserved from a Consumption,

tion, but also, by keeping the rudiments of this disease in an inactive state, for so long a time, be less disposed to be attacked by it in future; still, we should by no means relax in our preventative measures; but, as this disorder generally declares itself, in both sexes, from the age of fourteen to sixteen, rather redouble our attention, to guard against those causes of irritation and inflammation, to which the subject, as it approaches this critical period of life, will be more than ever exposed.

Violent
Exercises.

Dancing,
&c.

The same exercise, which will prove recreating and strengthening to youth endowed with a good constitution, seldom fails of being injurious to those, whose Lungs especially are affected with this natural infirmity: Thus Dancing, which, when moderately used, is, in general, rather conducive to health than otherwise, will, by increasing the velocity of the blood, and propelling it with violence, through the substance of Lungs, obstructed

structed by tumours, which impede its free circulation, become a cause of irritation, capable, in the end, of inflaming tubercles.

It is not only in this manner that dancing, even when not carried to excess, promotes this effect; the heat, occasioned by an increased and quickened circulation, which is considerably augmented by the warmth of the apartment where this exercise is usually practised, obliges infirm persons to have recourse to the free air, in order not only to cool themselves, but also to facilitate respiration, which often becomes very laborious, owing to a spasmodic affection with which their Lungs are attacked; an obstruction of the insensible cutaneous perspiration now takes place, which, as alone, it is a very sufficient cause of inflammation, cannot fail when combined with the irritation already excited by exercise, to produce the most alarming consequence.

If then, this genteel exercise, the most inoffensive, perhaps, of any to which youth is addicted, is still capable of causing such
dangerous

dangerous effects; how much more to be dreaded are fencing, tennis, hunting, and other diversions which require much greater exertions, and expose also to the severest injuries of the air? Surely, in countries liable to constant vicissitudes of the weather, where these violent exercises, and many other intemperate customs prevail, and where marriages are often contracted without paying the least attention to health, particularly to hereditary diseases, no person possessed of any share of Medical Knowledge, should be surprized, to find Consumption spread over the face of the land, as abundantly, as if this disorder really was of a contagious nature.

Let consumptive parents then, (*if they will have children*) take care, that they should not be instructed in any of these fashionable exercises; lest when they grow up to this age, and become less subject to controul, they should be so addicted to them, as to render it almost impossible, either by arguments or threats, to dissuade them from their practice; however partial they may be to their offspring, the slightest
attention

attention paid to the structure of their breasts, (the true index of the state of the Lungs) ought to convince them, that every attempt to render them strong and active by these means, will be as dangerous and as illusory, as if endeavours were made, to strengthen a man attacked with a fever, by administering to him the strongest and most gross food: pleasant walks, riding gently on horseback or in a carriage, and such mild exercise, are the only ones that are fit for young persons affected by this infirmity; and as the youth of the Continent of good, sound constitutions, and even several healthy young persons of our own Country, of a sedate and serious disposition, are not only well satisfied with these gentle diversions, but even prefer them to those which require greater exertions; surely they ought to be sufficient for valetudinarians, who by any considerable degree of irritation, are threatened with the greatest danger.

Sanguineous Discharge.

A bleeding at the nose is almost the only sanguineous discharge, to which the male sex, as it approaches the age of puberty, is liable; this accident however, notwithstanding the resistance opposed by tubercles, to the circulation of the blood through the Lungs, will seldom happen, at least in any alarming quantity, if due attention is paid, during the infant state, to regimen and exercise: when these are neglected, this evacuation will sometimes be necessary to deplete the sanguineous vessels, which, at this period of life, are liable to such a preternatural fullness and distention as to be threatened with ruptures.

It should therefore not be suppressed, unless weakness, (the best sign for distinguishing a critical and salutary excretion, from a symptomatical one) should compel us thereto; and then, if the person is laid on the side, opposite to that, from which the bleeding proceeds, is kept cool, and supplied with a few draughts of cold water, in each pint of which, a scruple of nitre

nitre is dissolved ; these mild, simple means, as they attack the causes of the complaint, will be found sufficient to give it a proper check.

At this age, the symptoms which denote ^{Menses.} the approach of the Menses generally make their appearance on females ; and although weak, infirm persons are very seldom so much affected by the efforts of nature, on this occasion, as those of a robust, plethoric habit ; still it often happens, that by improper management, tubercles, if not immediately inflamed, are at least so considerably enlarged, as to wait only for the assistance of any occasional cause, to establish a Consumption.

A distension of the breasts ; an unusual fullness of the veins on the surface of the body ; a painful weight of the hips and loins ; pains in the bowels ; head aches, &c. are symptoms which announce the Menses : but, notwithstanding these signs, the excretion does not, nor ought not, always take ^{Their difficult Excretion.} place,

place, when they first appear; Nature will often require time, to make several attempts of this kind, to dilate the womb and its blood-vessels, before she can succeed in her endeavours to establish a free passage; these attempts, however, will seldom or never prove injurious to the constitution, but rather provide against the recurrence of all, or at least, the greater part of the symptoms, at the subsequent periods; a circumstance which always takes place, when this evacuation is forced, before Nature is thoroughly prepared for its discharge.

This work should, therefore, during at least the first months of Menstruation, be left entirely to Nature, unless the pains should become insupportable, or threaten to bring on a fever of any consequence; in this case, to which however, weak persons are seldom liable, the distension and dilation of the vessels, should not only be diminished, but every gentle method should also be employed, to lessen the resistance of the womb; a few ounces of blood, drawn by the application of leeches, or what is still better perhaps, by cupping glasses, placed
on

on the inside of the thighs, will best answer the former intention; and warm emollient Clysters; fomentations on the lower part of the belly, over the womb; bathing the legs, and even half the body, in warm water; will be sufficient to diminish gradually, the spasmodic constriction, with which the womb is affected, and facilitate the menstrual discharge.

When by these means, repeated, as often Suppression of the Menfes. as the return and violence of the symptoms require it, the Menfes are established; great care should be taken during the flux, to make the individual avoid such causes as are known to effect their suppression: she should therefore be defended, as much as possible, against passions of all kinds, such as sudden fits of joy, grief, violent anger, frights, &c.; nor should she be allowed to expose herself to intense cold, or to wet her hands or feet with cold water, or to take remedies of any kind, especially purgatives, until the excretion is entirely finished.

Should

Should a suppression nevertheless take place, no other remedies but the foregoing, ought to be made use of, either to procure their return, or to prepare the habit for it, during the time which intervenes betwixt the accident and the next period; emetics, stomach purges, chalybeates, mercurials, resinous emmenagogues, given on pretence of attenuating the fluids, strengthening the solids, forcing down the menses, &c. seldom fail to produce very dangerous effects, even on young persons endowed with a good constitution; how much more certain then must be the mischief, which these irritating drugs occasion, when given to those who are afflicted with infirm Lungs? surely we cannot hesitate to declare, that a confirmed Consumption must ultimately be the inevitable consequence.

But it is not only when the menstrual excretion is attended with some difficulty, as it commonly is, in the beginning, before the womb, and the channels through which it must flow, are sufficiently distended, to allow it a free passage; or when the flux is suppressed by passions or external causes, that these dangerous

dangerous remedies are administered, under various forms : whatever may be the complaint with which a young female, who has attained the age of puberty, is attacked, if the Menfes have not as yet made their appearance, or that this excretion stops for some time, she is often put on the use of these medicines, although her indisposition is produced by a different cause ; now, as the menfes seldom appear betimes on infirm persons, and that their stoppage will very frequently depend on a penury of blood, and therefore be useful to the habit, the fatal effects of this practice are too evident, to require any further explanation.

Necessary
Stoppage of
the Menfes.

I sincerely then advise those, to whom the care of young females, at this period of life, is confided, to employ no other than the most gentle means, in the management of this critical and salutary evacuation, upon which the future health of the individual so much depends : on this occasion, and indeed on almost all others, the *Medicina expectans*, temporising Practice will most avail, especially with persons whose Lungs are affected with the natural blemish, which we endeavour

endeavour to restrain; instead then, of forcing this natural excretion, by remedies, which, if not immediately, must in time, prove injurious to the patient, although the performance attracts the notice of the vulgar; let them be satisfied with removing patiently such impediments as oppose its passage, and leave to Nature, ever watchful for the preservation of the individual, the care of perfecting a work, to which she is well disposed, whenever she finds herself fully prepared for the task.

Heating
Remedies.

So much has been now said, respecting the dangerous effects of heating remedies, both in infancy, and at the age of puberty, that it appears to me unnecessary, to enlarge on the subject any farther; my reason, therefore, for introducing it again, is, that it may afford an opportunity, of warning young men, whose passions will unfortunately often expose them to the greatest dangers, to shun, above all others, that of contracting an infamous disease, which, when violent to any degree, will

will force Physicians to employ mercury, a most irritating medicine, in order to give them a chance for life; let them be well assured, that there are but very few, if any instances, of persons afflicted with injured Lungs, being properly recovered from this disease, even though they should resist mercury, and by the skill of a sensible and experienced Practitioner, escape from Death; the most they can expect is, to be enabled to drag on a painful and miserable life, which for the short time it lasts, will be rather an intolerable burthen, than a blessing to them.

The dangerous effects of the abuse of strong, fermented and spirituous liquors, have also been already sufficiently described, to deter those who have the care of children, especially weak and infirm ones, from the pernicious custom of allowing them to be taken, even in the smallest quantity, under any form, or on any pretence whatsoever: but, when I consider the force of bad example, and the eager ambition that a

Strong, fermented and spirituous Liquors.

M

young

young person has, of appearing in company as strong and as clever a fellow as his intemperate companions, I am afraid that it will be no easy matter, notwithstanding the warnings of nature, to prevent those who are under no controul, from falling into the degrading habit of drinking; if admonitions however, and the untimely fate of others, are not capable of restraining them, a few bouts, by which, all the precautions taken by fond Parents, during their infancy, will be overturned, will convince them, when too late, that a confirmed Consumption, with all its horrors, will, most assuredly, be the reward of their excesses.

As the precautions, which I have now recommended to be taken, through Infancy and Puberty, to prevent the increase, and subsequent inflammation of tubercles, are not the result of speculation, but grounded on experience, and a knowledge of the nature and real causes of this disease; it may be reasonably expected, that if they are duly attended to, they will be the means of preserving the lives of many, who, through ignorance or neglect, daily fall sacrifices to a
pulmonary

pulmonary Consumption: and truly, if even we had not a certitude of succeeding completely, in obtaining this great object of our wishes, still, as the rules and treatment laid down, are calculated to counteract and relieve many other disorders, to which the human body is exposed, at these periods of life, a proper regard to them, must, at all events, be productive of salutary effects.

When the infant is reared in the usual way, and no care is taken, to restrain and direct the conduct of youth, but that it is left at liberty to pursue the dictates of its passions, and launch into the fashionable intemperance of the age; tubercles, which encreased gradually, during the former period, will, now that the solids and fluids are the most susceptible of irritation, inflame; and a confirmed Consumption, characterised by symptoms, which usually succeed each other, in the order assigned them in the Definition, which I have already given of this Disease, must soon be the inevitable consequence.

I have

I have before remarked, that no discovery has hitherto been made, which could in the least contribute to the *actual* cure of this disease, when once properly established; nor can any thing be observed in dissected bodies, that can give us such hopes of ever succeeding in any attempt of this kind, as to entitle us to subject our Patients to further experiments, on this score; to the reverse, the knowledge with which they furnish us, should rather give us just reason to regret the harm that has been done them hitherto, in consequence of our speculative opinions: the only reasonable use, therefore, that the Medical Art can be of, when things are let to run on to this pitch, is, to mitigate each of these symptoms according to their urgency; and this cannot be effected by remedies, dictated by caprice or chance, but by such as Reason and Experience will, notwithstanding their plainness, prove to be so efficacious, in diminishing their cause, that, when pompous Prescriptions have not only failed of success, but have even been manifestly

manifestly injurious, they must, at last, be resorted to, as our only resource, for procuring relief.

THE TREATMENT OF A CONSUMPTION.

A COUGH is the first symptom that makes its appearance, in a Consumption; although during infancy, an infirm child is often attacked with smart fits of this complaint, followed by a difficulty of breathing, particularly, when it makes any extraordinary exertions, which encrease the velocity of the blood through the Lungs, it seldom however attracts our notice, until the age of puberty; the revolution which takes place in the human body, at this period, and the occasional causes of irritation and

Consumptive Cough.

and inflammation, to which the individual is now more eminently exposed, unite in exciting this symptom, and rendering it, through every subsequent stage of the disease, the most distressing of any, with which it is attended.

In the beginning of a Consumption, the cough is rather teasing than afflictive; it seldom or never comes on by fits, but may be remarked, by a short, dry barking, especially after meals, towards night, or when the Patient has taken unusual exercise; the Hectic Fever, which constantly attends the formation of purulent matter, in a degree proportionate to the extent of inflammation, soon appears, and increases the force of this symptom, in every respect: the fits of coughing now, not only last much longer, and become more harassing, by the addition of pains, which shoot through the breast, in different directions; but the attacks also return more frequently, as they always accompany the transitory blasts of cold and heat, with which the Patient is repeatedly attacked; at length, when the rupture of varicous vessels, or that of a suppurated tubercle, is
on

on the point of taking place, the pains not only become insupportable, but also the cough (from this complication of irritating causes) so incessant, that, except when a short, unrefreshing respite is procured by art, the miserable patient is seldom, for a moment, free from it, until the relaxation, caused by the expectoration of blood, or purulent matter, brings some relief.

As all this is manifestly owing, and can be easily explained, by the uninterrupted progression of irritation and inflammation of tubercles, from the state in which they were found, in the bodies of the two dissected children, to that in which they were observed in the young woman and man; Surely, no further experiments are wanting, to trace out the line of Practice, that ought to be pursued, for the relief of this symptom.

So

Its Cure.

So soon, therefore, as it appears, care should be immediately taken, to check its progress, by the means already proposed, for the prevention and cure of the occasional causes of Consumption; the Patient should keep his bed, or at least his room; a proper regimen, and plenty of cooling drink, such as has been prescribed, in obstructions of cutaneous perspiration, strongly recommended, and the following draught, given at night, in bed;

R $\bar{x}$. Aq. ammon. acetat. (spirit of Mindererus) drachmas tres.

Syr. Papav. alb. drachmas duas.

Aq. Cinnam. simpl. drachmam unam.

----- Commun. uncias duas.

Syr. simpl. unciam unam. misce
f. haustus sero capiendus.

If,

If, by insisting for two or three days, on the use of these medicines, the irritation is not diminished, and the Cough considerably abated, there is every reason to apprehend, that the tubercles are affected with inflammation, to a certain degree; in this case, six leeches, applied to the breast of a Patient, from fourteen to sixteen years of age, will, in general, yield as much blood, as ought to be drawn, at one time, from such persons; should the continuance of the Cough, however, render such another evacuation necessary, it may be repeated, at a proper distance; and, in order to cause a diversion, two small blisters should be applied behind the ears, and a discharge kept up from them, for some time. In this stage alone, of the complaint, I think I have observed, that an issue, established between the shoulders, has been sometimes attended with useful effects; it therefore may be employed, as a means of intercepting the flow of humours to the Lungs, and kept up, until the individual has passed the age of Puberty, but no longer.

This management, if not opposed by emetics, stomach purgers, and other preposterous remedies, unhappily too much in use, generally succeeds in quieting the Cough, unless a suppuration has taken place, before it is entered upon: When this happens, however, (which will be known by the coming on of the Hætic Fever) the only reasonable assistance that we are able to afford, will be given, by steadily insisting on the regimen and remedies already prescribed, or substituting a milk diet, and the following preparations, in their place.

R̄.

Stipit. Solan. scandent. five dulcamaræ (bitter sweet) unciam semissem.

Coq. per horæ quadrantem in aq. commun. libras duas.

Colatur adde Syr. Capil. vener. uncias duas.

Capiat æger uncias quatuor, tertia quaque hora.

When

When the Cough becomes so violent and incessant, as not only to torment by day, but also, to deprive the patient of rest at night, half an ounce of the Syrop of White Poppies, should be added to the whole of the above Decoction, and the following draught given, at bed time:

R.

Decoct. precedent, uncias
duas.

Syr. Papav. alb, unciam se-
missim.

Aq. Cinnam. simpl. drach-
mam unam.

Misce ut f. haustus

If

If the advice which I have given, in the Preventative Treatment of a Consumption, to send a child, threatened with this Disease, to the southern parts of the Continent, has not been followed, at that period of life, when such a step would be productive of the most salutary effects; a journey of this kind, undertaken in the beginning of the Cough, if performed with proper precaution, will, even now, be of very great use: I need not say, (as the cause of this disorder is now known) that a complete cure cannot be expected, from this, or any other means, that may be employed for the purpose; but it undoubtedly contributes greatly to the obtaining of an extensive and undisturbed truce, whereby Nature is left at liberty to exert herself, for the prolongation, at least, of the Patient's life.

The precautions to be taken, on this occasion, consist in diminishing the irritation, already subsisting in the habit, and avoiding every cause, that is capable of urging it on to inflammation: the Journey should, therefore, be performed by land, as much as possible, in serene, mild weather,
and

and the stages made short and pleasant; the regimen and medicines prescribed for the Cough, ought not to be neglected on the road, nor laid aside at the journey's end; unless the complaint is perfectly relieved; the greatest care should be taken, to avoid cold and moisture; and the bed-cloaths at the inns, should be closely inspected, lest, as it often happens, they may be damp; airing them, at all events, is seldom unnecessary, in these Places.

The Patient, when arrived in the Country designed for his residence, should not advance too rapidly, as is the custom, into the hottest parts of it; I have constantly observed, that, from the action of unusual and sudden heat on the body, a Fever, and spitting of blood, are the almost immediate consequences of such transitions; by leaving this Country or England for France, I suppose, about the middle of the month of April, he may get, with ease, as far as Chalons sur Saône, Macon, or Lyons, before the beginning of May; in the neighbourhood of either of these cities, many healthy, delightful seats are to be found,
for

for passing the summer, and about the middle of October, he can move slowly towards the south, where the winter residence should be taken up.

There can be no objection made to any place, on the left side of the Rhone, in which the Patient may chuse to live, during this season, except Avignon and Marseilles; both these cities and their vicinages, are liable to frequent and durable attacks, from the north-east, and north-west piercing winds, called, in the provincial dialect, *Mistral*, and *Tremontane*, which render them very unpleasant and hurtful to even such of the Natives, as are of weak, infirm constitutions; in my opinion, however, the neighbourhood of Aix, a very pretty city, situated between these two, and that of all the small towns, as far up as the Var, should be preferred, as the inhabitants of these parts are more frank, honest and fonder of strangers, especially British Subjects, than any other people I have met with in that kingdom.

During

During the winter, and indeed, at all seasons, the Patient should avoid play-houses, balls and assemblies of all kinds; sedentary amusements, with walks, in the most sheltered parts of the recreating, though much neglected gardens of the country, and gentle riding, are, in general, what will be proper; provided that this exercise, is not taken in the heat of the day, or protracted so as to be exposed to the dews, which are very heavy in that climate; circumstances which strongly dispose Foreigners to a species of continued Fever, called by the natives, *le tribut de l'Etranger*, the Stranger's tribute, from the number of them, who, for want of this caution, are attacked with it.

The greatest circumspection is necessary, when the Patient gets rid of the Cough, to guard against a relapse; in order to avoid this event, a residence for a year or two in the same, or a similar climate to that, where the recovery took place, and the most exact temperance, are absolutely requisite; Let the individual, during this space of time, nay, whilst he lives, remember, that he
still

still bears within his breast, the germs of a fatal disease, which, when once it has displayed signs of a certain degree of maturity, is the readier to spring up again, the moment that it is excited, by any of the occasional causes, which had already raised it to so dangerous a height.

When proper measures have not been taken, to quiet the Cough, by allaying in due time, the irritation of tubercles, Inflammation takes place, and proceeds to the formation of purulent matter, either rapidly or slowly, according to the constitution of the Patient, and the nature of the cause, by which it is excited: thus, if the habit is comparatively plethoric or irritable, or that inflammation is induced by the Measles, Hooping Cough, or by such an extensive stoppage of cutaneous perspiration, as is capable of producing any degree of Pneumonic Inflammation, a speedy suppuration, and what is commonly called, a *Galoping Consumption*, will be the consequence; whereas, when the constitution is different, or the effect is produced, by the less acrimonious
and

and active occasional causes, the disorder advances, in a more slow and insidious manner: the tubercle, first inflamed and suppurated, communicates the affection to a contiguous one, with which it has contracted an adherence, this to another, and so on, until the Lungs are reduced to the state, in which they were found, in the bodies of the young woman and man, whose dissections have been already described.

The Hætic Fever, which survenes, at The Hætic Fever. latest, immediately after purulent matter is formed, in quantity or quality adequate to its production, generally approaches so near the continued type, in the former species, that little or no remission is perceived, until it is deemed too late, to administer medicines of any kind, with a view to restrain the violence of a subsequent exacerbation: this circumstance, however, ought not to occasion much regret, as notwithstanding the presence of pus, every other remedy, but such as ought to be employed in the treatment

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ment of the inflammatory disease, which preceded and produced the Fever, will be found by experience, capable rather of exasperating than diminishing, every symptom with which it is attended.

The truth of this assertion will, I believe, be very nearly demonstrated, by attending to the effects of the medicines, usually prescribed, when the inflammation and suppuration of tubercles proceed in a slow and gradual manner; although, in this case, the remissions of the Hætic Fever are often so distinct, as to give it the appearance of an Intermittent, still, even the Bark, (that excellent remedy, in almost every other species of Fever, that assumes this type;) and all other tonic or heating medicines, never fail to produce considerable mischief; the heat, which before their use, was mild, and only came on, after meals, and towards night, in flashes, which principally affected the cheeks and palms of the hands, soon becomes acrid, more intense and durable; the cough is rendered hard, dry, and more distressing in every respect; the tongue is parched; sleep is
either

either much disturbed, or the Patient is entirely restless ; in short, the irritation excited in the whole frame, is such, that the remissions disappear, the Fever becomes continual, and the fatal issue of the disorder, is prematurely determined.

If we confine our practice to the simple and obvious indication, of checking the inflammation of the tubercles which are the first affected, and prevent it from propagating itself successively to the neighbouring ones, we will spare the Patient a great deal of useless sufferings, and do every thing that lies in the power of Art, to stop the progress of the Hectic Fever, and prolong life: in order to answer this intention, (whatever may be the quantity of purulent matter already collected) a bleeding, proportioned to the strength of the Patient, and the degree of Fever, performed by the application of leeches to the part of the breast, where the pain, in coughing, is principally felt, will be very necessary ; this operation will answer best, if practised in the heat of the exacerbation ; if this, however, is not distinct,

ting, which is very often the case, it may be done at any time, and even repeated, whenever a high degree of Fever renders the evacuation absolutely necessary.

The regimen, recommended in the treatment of the preceding symptom, should be chiefly adhered to; and a liberal use made of the following drink, which I have found to agree with the Patient, and allay the hectic heat, better than any other, which I have employed, on the occasion:

Take,

A small, lean Chicken,
Beet-root, half a pound;

Boil them, for two hours, in three quarts of water; press out the juice of the root, and mix it with the broth, when strained.

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In order, however, to support Nature, and repair, as much as the Disease will permit, the great loss of strength, and the general emaciation, which are gradually induced by the Hectic Fever; food somewhat more nutritious and invigorating, than that which has been hitherto allowed, may perhaps, when the exacerbations are considerably diminished, be given without danger. To the diet, therefore, already recommended, consisting of such milk, as will be found on trial, to agree best with the Patient's stomach, taken either alone, or combined with the farinacea, particularly rice, under various forms; baked or roasted fruit, of the less acid kind, &c; animal jellies, especially that of hartshorn, eggs, and even tame fowl, may be added; provided that they are given, in a very moderate quantity, and so early in the day, as that their digestion may be perfectly finished, before the approach of night: two common confectioner's glasses of hartshorn jelly; a couple of fresh eggs; or about four ounces of fowl, with half a pound of bread, will be fully sufficient for dinner, which should be made, from twelve
to

to one o'clock; bread and milk, is a mild, nourishing breakfast; and the yolks of two eggs, beat up with whatever quantity of white sugar the Patient likes, and then diluted with a pint of warm water, given at five or six o'clock in the evening, is as much nourishment as need be given in the day, and may be insisted on to the end of the disorder, should the weakness of the habit require it.

— Both Reason and Experience prove, that a Journey to the Continent, or indeed, to any place, at a considerable distance from the Patient's abode, is not only useless, but dangerous, when this species of Hætic Fever is thoroughly established. A warm climate, and the sober method of living, which prevails among the better sort of people, in the southern parts of Europe, will, I have not the least doubt, greatly contribute to retard the growth of tubercles, and prevent their inflammation; but, when an Ulcer is formed, and that we have reason to apprehend the suppuration of other tubercles, surely, travelling, either by sea or land, can by no means

means be considered, as conducive to health: every advantage, that can reasonably be supposed to arise from that, or a residence in a warmer Country will never compensate for the injury, which the ulcerated Lungs must sustain, during the journey, both from the degree of irritation, which, notwithstanding every precaution, must necessarily attend it, and from the action of the other occasional causes of inflammation, which, however slight they may be, must still be highly offensive to the organ, when reduced to this state.

When this species of Fever is properly characterised, the less Exercise the Patient takes, and the more seldom he goes into the open air, the better: riding on horseback; airing, especially in open carriages; sailing; running, or even walking too much; never fail to produce the same effect on internal ulcers, as on most external ones, that of irritating them, and promoting inflammation: and it is a fact, which Practitioners must have observed, that, the soreness of the Lungs; the Cough, and the pains which attend it; the difficulty

difficulty of breathing, &c. become more violent and distressing, by breathing the purest, or most copiously *oxygenated* air, than by that, which is contained in the room, which the Patient inhabits, or even in stables and cow-houses. Instead therefore, of driving a person, in this stage of a pulmonary Consumption, from home, by way of exercise, and in quest of pure air, (a practice pregnant with mischief, and founded only on imitation;) let him be allowed to keep his apartment, and walk about it, or in some well sheltered contiguous place, as little as he pleases, or as, in this state, Nature requires; if the windows, particularly of the bed-room, are exposed to the south, or south-west, it will be the more comfortable; but neither these nor the door, ought to be suddenly thrown open, nor fresh air introduced, by any means so often, as is usually practised; should the persons who frequent the apartment imagine, that the air which it contains, may be offensive to them, it may be renewed; but the Patient ought to be guarded against the chill, which, in every season,

season, a fresh influx occasions, on weak, unhealthy persons.

The Hemoptysis, which generally ap- Hemoptysis
 pears, when the Hectic Fever has made
 some progress, is very probably owing (as
 it has before been remarked, when treat-
 ing of the Imaginary Causes of a Con-
 sumption) to a rupture, of some of the
 varicous blood-vessels, which were ob-
 served, in the dissected bodies, spread
 over such of the tubercles, as contained
 purulent matter, or had been attacked
 with inflammation. Before this symptom
 comes on, in any remarkable degree, the
 Cough is unusually teasing, and the Pati-
 ent feels an oppressive fullness in the
 breast, from which he is so evidently re-
 lieved, in proportion as the extravasated
 blood is expectorated, that this evacuation,
 like a bleeding at the nose, seems rather
 useful, in emptying the distended vessels,
 than capable, by itself, of producing any
 dangerous effect.

This consideration alone, ought to be sufficient, to deter from the use of astringents, tonics, large or repeated bleedings, opium, &c. did not daily experience also prove, that these remedies, so far from relieving, seldom fail to prolong and augment the complaint: moreover, their inutility will very plainly appear, if we consider that this symptom never threatens the Patient with any danger, and will terminate, without their assistance; for, although it should happen, (which however is very rarely the case) that, by the rupture of several varicous blood-vessels, at the same time, the discharge is somewhat copious, still it shortly diminishes spontaneously, and gradually disappears, before any alarming weakness is induced; nor does it return for some time, particularly if the progress of irritation and inflammation, its real causes, is rather checked, by a cooling, antiphlogistic treatment, than excited by a contrary one.

When

When the Hemoptysis recurs often, or resists such remedies, as are commonly employed to restrain it, the Patient is usually sent to Bristol, in England, or Mallow, in this Country, in order to drink the mineral waters, so much renowned, in the cure of a Consumption. Although no Physician, who is acquainted with the nature and cause of this Disease, and who knows, that these waters are impregnated, only with a small quantity of calcareous earth, and a few particles of a common neutral salt, will ever be induced to believe the fabulous accounts of the numerous radical cures, performed by this remedy; still, it ought to be allowed, that it generally succeeds, not only in safely stopping the Hemoptysis, but also, in considerably retarding the return of this symptom. I need not say, perhaps, that, as there exists no analogy or proportion whatsoever, between the cause and the effect, it would be very unreasonable, to attribute this change to the ingredients, which these waters contain; on the contrary, it is more than probable, that, were the mineral substances, suspended in them,

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in a quantity, capable of producing any effect, it would be rather disadvantageous to the Patient, than otherwise.

Experiments do not always answer in Practice, the expectations which arise from them, when made out of the human body ; a *menstruum*, which will produce a considerable effect on substances, submitted to its action, *in vitro*, often turns out, either impotent, or even hurtful, when employed inwardly, for the same purpose ; it is not, therefore, because I have found tepid common water so powerful, in dispelling the hardness of small tubercles, and softening the largest and most inflamed, that are left to macerate in it, for a little time, that I entertain the highest opinion of its efficacy, in the cure of a Consumption: Experience and Observation have so thoroughly convinced me, that this element, taken, either alone, or slightly impregnated with the farinacea, or with an animal juice, as heretofore prescribed, if taken as plentifully as these, or any other mineral waters, ought to be, is as capable, as they, or any other remedy, with which
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we are acquainted, of not only stopping a Hemoptysis, with the greatest safety, but of contributing also very considerably, towards the relief of the Cough, and Hectic Fever.(e)

The Patient then, who does not quit his habitation, and adheres strictly to the regimen, proposed in the preceding symptom, ought not to repine, or envy the lot of a fellow sufferer, who can more conveniently, perhaps, undertake one of those fashionable trips; Providence has placed within his reach,

(e) In the beginning of this century, my former good neighbours, the Swiss, prepared and sold, at a very high price, considerable quantities of the *Saccharum lactis*, (sugar of milk) which, at that time, was considered as a very powerful remedy, in the cure of the Consumption of the Lungs; a small portion of this sugar was ordered to be dissolved in a large quantity of good spring water, and drunk as plentifully as the Patient could be prevailed upon to take it; this innocent and useful remedy maintained its reputation for a considerable time; at length, however, it was superseded by those pompous *Nostrums*, which now overflow several Countries of Europe, to the eternal disgrace of such venal Governments, as, for vile lucre, give a legal sanction to this traffic of Poisons.

reach, a simple remedy, most undoubtedly, as efficacious as any that the other can find, at his journey's end; nor is he exposed, in pursuit of it, to unusual exertions and fatigue, which, as has been said before, never fail to aggravate every symptom belonging to a Consumption, caused by an Ulceration of the Lungs.

Expectora-
tion of
Purulent
Matter.

A Purulent Expectoration does not always take place, in a Consumption; there are instances which prove, that this Disease, has sometimes, though very rarely, proceeded through its different stages, and finished its course, without our being able to discern pus, or discover it by any experiment, in the sputa, which are copiously discharged, in these cases: the reason of this phenomenon, will, I believe, shortly appear; in the mean time, we can say, that this excretion generally supervenes, in a short time after the Hemoptysis manifests itself, and afterwards accompanies this symptom, from time to time, throughout the remainder of the Disorder.

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This discharge, is usually preceded, by a remarkable aggravation of the other symptoms of a Consumption; the Cough is more distressing, the exacerbations of the Hectic Fever, more violent, and the suffocating fullness, and the pain across the breast, creates greater anxiety, than at any other period of the Disorder: as then, the bursting of the tumour, and the consequent expectoration of purulent matter, rescues the Patient, shortly after it makes its appearance, from this state of sufferance, it is not at all to be wondered at, that this dangerous symptom, should afterwards be deemed so necessary to his quiet existence, that every circumstance, which seems to threaten, in the least, the suppression of it, should excite the greatest alarm.

It is very probable, that it is to this dread, we chiefly owe the introduction of nauseating doses of antimonial preparations, syrop of squills, ammoniacum milk, balsamic pills, and various other heating and irritating drugs, so constantly employed, whenever the expectoration of this matter

matter stops, or even when it is perceived to diminish; but if a little attention is paid to the nature of this symptom, and to what has been observed in the dissected bodies, particularly, in the Lungs of JANETON DESFORGES, we will be made fully sensible, I think, of the danger of this Practice, and be thoroughly convinced, that the reputation, which those medicines have acquired, of being powerful *Expectorants*, cannot be kept up, but at the expence of a considerable portion of the Patient's life.

We discovered, in fact, two large tumours, in this woman's left Lung, one of which had burst, and discharged into the bronchial tubes, such a quantity of purulent matter, as to produce suffocation; the other, placed by it, and separated from it, only by a thin membranous partition, contained two tea spoonfuls of matter, to all appearance, of a good quality, so shut up within the membrane that covered it, that until this was opened, none could be forced, by pressure, to flow into the tubes,
which

which were inserted in it; and several small ones, which, when cut, gave out a little mucous matter.

Now, the state of the second tumour, evidently contradicts the opinion, which is too generally received; that, matter, produced by the inflammation of tubercles, is of a most acrimonious nature: for, did the pus, contained in this tumour, possess a corrosive quality, in any degree approaching that which belongs to phagœdenic ulcers, surely, the membrane that covered it, could not, for a moment, have resisted its action; instead of remaining in as inoffensive a condition, as a *vomica*, produced by accidental pneumonic inflammation, it would have pierced the thin Cyst that inclosed it, established a communication with the open ulcer, and speedily consumed the substance of the Lungs, in every direction.

If, therefore, the Patient's strength is supported, by proper allowances, of the mild nutritious food, recommended in the treatment

ment of the Hætic Fever; that copious and repeated draughts are given, of common water, or any other of the diluting drinks, before prescribed; and that care is taken, to guard against the causes of irritation; it may be reasonably hoped, that whatever purulent matter is contained in the ulcer, will be, either gradually expectorated, or carried out of the body, by some of the excretories; that the coverings of an unruptured tumour will thicken, (as it happens in the *vomica*) and thus remain, for years, in an almost inoffensive state; and that the augmentation and inflammation of the smaller tubercles will be prevented; whereas, if irritating drugs are given, when purulent expectoration begins to diminish, as it will do, when the ulcer begins to heal; or when it stops, which must be the case whenever it is healed; surely, it may be safely asserted, that they will encrease the violence, and multiply the exacerbations, of the Hætic Fever; convert whatever remains of the first tumour, into purulent matter; swell, and rapidly promote the rupture

rupture of the second; and stimulate the smaller tubercles to such a degree, as to render them capable, in succession, of supplying purulent expectoration, for a much longer time, than it can be possible for the Patient, to resist the united effects of the remedies, and the disorder.

So soon as a tumour, thus excited, terminates by suppuration, an absorption of the purulent matter takes place, and continues, through the remainder of the disease, to act so efficaciously, that, in some cases, it is conveyed into the blood, as soon as formed, and thus, a rupture of the tubercle, and consequently an expectoration of pus, is prevented: in general, however, absorption proceeds in a slower manner; the purulent matter is gradually carried into the circulation, a Hectic Fever, proportionate to its quantity, or perhaps, to its quality, arises, and shortly after this event, the Emaciation, especially of the upper parts of the body, may be easily discerned.

Emaciation
of the upper
parts of
the Body,
and Drop-
sical Swel-
lings.

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By examining with attention, the state of a Consumptive Patient, it will be discovered, that a degree of Hectic Fever and Emaciation subsist, for a considerable time, before the bursting of a suppurated tubercle, and purulent expectoration come to pass; but most commonly, it is only when the Paroxysms of the Fever begin to be plainly marked, that this symptom makes so speedy a progress, as in a short time, to efface entirely, that comeliness, with which the body was before endued: by the power, which this species of matter, aided by the febrile heat, seems to possess, of dissolving the adipous substance of the human frame, in proportion as it is absorbed; not only the mass of fat, which makes an universal integument of the body, but that also, which is contained in the abdomen, and the other cavities, is gradually melted down; thus, the eyes, deprived of the fatty substance, which surrounded them, and filled the bottom of their orbits, sink in; the temporal muscles, and others, which maintained the symmetry of the face, and the exterior parts of the body, bereft of the fat, which filled
up

up their interstices, and to which they owed their plumpness, collapse, and leave disagreeable hollows; the abdomen decreases, and shrinks back, owing to the dissolution of the great quantity of fat, which surrounded the viscera, and was contained in the omentum, the mesentery and the mesocolon; in short, Emaciation, in some time, is carried to such a pitch, as to completely disfigure the Patient, and give him the most ghastly appearance.

Notwithstanding the height to which Emaciation is thus carried, as the discharges, in the first stages of a Consumption, are not very profuse, and that the muscles of the body receive no other injury, from the purulent matter, than that of reducing them to a most remarkable degree of slenderness, by the dissolution of their fat; the Patient's strength and motion are not so much impaired, nor do the dropical swellings of the lower extremities appear, so soon as in most other diseases,

diseases, attended with Fever: It is only when ulceration has proceeded to such an extent, as to almost saturate the blood, with purulent matter and oil, that these ferous collections declare themselves, in the most conspicuous manner; a degeneracy of the fluids, is now superadded, to the state of relaxation, to which the solids are already reduced; Nutrition is, in a great measure, suspended; and thus, whilst the Heart and vascular system are assailed by every cause, capable of diminishing their powers, Nature is deprived of the means of resisting these extravasations, or of absorbing and expelling them from the body.

As Emaciation and Dropsical swellings, are the effects of the absorption of purulent and oily matter; and that absorption is, very probably, in proportion to the extent of ulceration; whatever hopes can be rationally entertained, of retarding the progress of these symptoms, and of affording any relief, ought to be founded on the

the success of our endeavours, to guard the blood against the infection, and to confine the Ulcer, within the limits, to which it has already extended itself. An attempt may be made, to answer the former intention, by a few doses of the Syrop of Bark, prescribed in the treatment of the Hooping Cough, given in the remissions of the Hectic Fever; should these symptoms, however, increase, it would be needless, to teize the Patient, with the further use of this, or any other antiseptic medicine whatsoever; our only resource is, to insist on the regimen and drink, recommended in the Hectic Fever, whereby the ulceration will receive as great a check, as can be reasonably expected.

Copious
Discharges
by Sweat
and Stool.

The Hectic Fever appears to be the instrument, which Nature (incessantly careful, to rid the habit of whatever threatens its destruction) employs, to separate purulent matter from the mass of blood, and expel it from the body, by the different emunctories; so soon as the absorption of any of this matter takes place, the Fever is excited, and adjusting its exertions, nearly to the quantity or quality of the purulent fomes, occasions those moderate sweats, which occur, now and then, in the commencement of the Consumption; as, the ulceration of the Lungs increases, the Hectic exacerbations become more evident, and intense, and not only the Sweats, especially on the upper parts of the body, and on the inside of the thighs, are considerably augmented, but pus is also expelled by a Purging, which sometimes makes a short appearance, in this stage of the disorder, and by Urine, which is now often found thick, oily, and of a cadaverous smell: Whilst Nature re-
tains

tains energy sufficient to excite the Fever, these Sweats continue, and increase to such a degree, as to become her chief cause of Emaciation and Dropsical swellings; at length, however, the powers are exhausted, the Purging predominates, and notwithstanding her frequent attempts, to interrupt this fatal symptom, by reviving a trifling degree of Fever and Perspiration, as it is by its nature invincible, so it never fails to put, in a very short time, a period to the Patient's existence.

We find, in most Medical Writers, a great number of Drugs recommended for stopping these colliquative Sweats and Stools; the most powerful astringents and tonics, such as alum, preparations of vitriol, tincture of lead, bark, and the like, are ordered to be given in the former; and in the latter, absorbent and astringent earths, decoctions of log-wood, opium, &c. are freely prescribed.

I have already advanced, in several parts of this work, that the rapid progress of a Consumption, and the distress which the Patient endures in every stage of it, is, in a very great measure, owing to the active and irritating Medicines, which are commonly employed in its treatment; nor am I in the least apprehensive, that this assertion will be contradicted by one well authenticated fact, or by any Physician, who reflects on the nature of the Disease, and carefully attends to the effects of these remedies; but supposing that they are not so injurious as I have represented them; let me ask, what benefit can be expected from them, in this stage of the Consumption? Does not daily experience shew us, that even when we do succeed by their means, in giving a trifling check to one of these evacuations, the other instantly breaks out with such violence, as to defeat very speedily, all our previous endeavours; and thus convinces us, that they are incapable of affording the least relief, or of prolonging the Patient's life for one single hour, to compensate for the subjection and disgust attending their use?

As

As then, (if we except opium) these Drugs can answer no good end whatsoever, it would surely be an act of inhumanity, to impose them on the individual, who has been able to struggle thus far, with this fatal Disease; when these symptoms of general dissolution are allowed to take place, the Consumption is totally beyond the reach of Nature and Art; the only service, therefore, which it is *now* possible to render the Patient, entirely consists in adhering to a regimen, which will not increase Irritation, and endeavouring to procure a respite, by the means of moderate doses, of whatever preparation of opium, may appear most agreeable to him.

FINIS.